

REMARKS

In light of the following remarks and foregoing amendments, applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully solicit reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim rejections and allowance of claims 1-32.

I. REJECTIONS BASED ON 35 U.S.C. §102

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of the pending claims 1-30 as being as anticipated by Aravamudan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,301,609). Amended independent claims 1, 9, 17, and 22 recite, *inter alia*, a communications system or method for providing real-time communication between at least two devices wherein the system gathers device connection and status information associated with a first device for display on a second device. In particular, the device connection and status information " may be information associated with one of bandwidth, display capability, input capability, link type, link cost, device type, link or communication latency, and power of the first device." See page 4, lines 16:19 of the specification. Moreover, the status information associated with the first device and transmitted to the second device may be displayed to the user as an icon or other graphical indicator.

Aravamudan et al. does not teach or suggest, in any manner, gathering connection and status information about a communications device, much less collecting and transmitting status information from a first communications device to a second communications device for display to a user. Aravamudan et al. teaches the prioritization of *user* status information in an instant messaging environment based upon priority defined communications rules. In other words, the instant messaging system of Aravamudan et al. receives predefined information about the *device user*, e.g., whether the user is in a meeting. Aravamuden et al. does not gather any information about the device connection, e.g. the communications bandwith, or the device status, e.g. the device power level, much less transmit that information or data to

another device or display that information as an icon or other graphic. Because Aravamudan et al. fails to disclose each and every limitation of independent claims 1, 9, 17 and 22, it follows that these claims are not anticipated thereby.

Moreover, Aravamudan et al. does not recognize the desirability, or even the possibility of gathering connection and status information associated with a communications device, much less gathering and transmitting status information associated with a first communications device to a second communications device for display to a user. Thus, Aravamudan et al. does not provide the necessary suggestion or motivation to make the combination recited by independent claims 1, 9, 17 and 22. See *Ex parte Clapp* 227 USPQ 972, 973 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985). Because Aravamudan et al. provides no motivation or suggestion to make the claimed device, claims 1, 9, 17 and 22 and all claims dependent directly or indirectly thereon are not rendered obvious thereby.

II. CONCLUSION

For these foregoing reasons, applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance. If there are any additional fees or refunds required, the Commissioner is directed to charge or debit Deposit Account No. 13-2855. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims at issue and allowance thereof.

Respectfully submitted for,

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